

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING FOR</b>	)	<b>ORDER APPROVING FIRST</b>
<b>APPROVAL OF A FIRST AMENDMENT TO AN</b>	)	<b>AMENDMENT TO AMENDED</b>
<b>AMENDED INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT</b>	)	<b>AGREEMENT</b>
<b>BETWEEN U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS,</b>	)	
<b>INC. AND DAKOTA TELECOM, INC.</b>	)	<b>TC00-088</b>

On June 1, 2000, U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST) filed for approval by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) of a first amendment to an amended interconnection agreement between Dakota Telecom, Inc. (DTI) and U S WEST. The first amendment allows DTI to originate EAS/local traffic from South Dakota and terminate this traffic in Nebraska. This EAS/local traffic must be within the same local calling area as defined by U S WEST's current tariff.

On June 8, 2000, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing of the first amendment to interested individuals and entities. The notice stated that any person wishing to comment on the parties' request for approval had until June 21, 2000, to do so. No comments were filed.

At its duly noticed August 9, 2000, meeting, the Commission considered whether to approve the negotiated first amendment to the amended agreement between U S WEST and DTI. Commission Staff recommended its approval.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, and the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. In accordance with 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2), the Commission found that the first amendment does not discriminate against a telecommunications carrier that is not a party to the first amendment and the first amendment is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. The Commission unanimously voted to approve the first amendment to the amended agreement. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Commission approves the negotiated first amendment to the amended agreement as described herein.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 16th day of August, 2000.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

**BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:**

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JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

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PAM NELSON, Commissioner

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LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner